

CLAIMS

1. A method comprising:
 - identifying video data to be encoded;
 - identifying a plurality of display regions associated with a particular video display type, wherein each of the plurality of display regions is associated with a particular portion of an image associated with the video data; and
 - encoding the video data such that the encoded video data includes information regarding the plurality of display regions.
2. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising identifying an active region of the video data.
3. A method as recited in claim 2 wherein encoding the video data includes indicating the active region of the image associated with the video data.
4. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising storing the encoded video data.
5. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising transmitting the encoded video data to a plurality of destinations.
6. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein each display region has an associated display region identifier.

1 7. One or more computer-readable memories containing a computer
2 program that is executable by a processor to perform the method recited in claim
3 1.

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5 8. A method comprising:
6 identifying video content to be encoded;
7 identifying a first display region associated with a first video display type;
8 identifying a second display region associated with the first video display
9 type, wherein the first and second display regions are associated with different
10 portions of an image associated with the video content; and
11 encoding the video content such that the encoded video content includes
12 information regarding the first display region and the second display region.

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14 9. A method as recited in claim 8 further comprising:
15 identifying a third display region associated with a second video display
16 type; and
17 identifying a fourth display region associated with the second video display
18 type, wherein the encoded video content includes information regarding the first
19 display region, the second display region, the third display region, and the fourth
20 display region.

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22 10. A method as recited in claim 8 further comprising identifying an
23 active region of the video content, wherein encoding the video content includes
24 indicating the active region of the image associated with the video content.
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1 **11.** A method as recited in claim 8 wherein each display region has an
2 associated display region identifier.

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4 **12.** A method as recited in claim 8 further comprising communicating
5 the encoded video content to a plurality of receivers.

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7 **13.** One or more computer-readable memories containing a computer
8 program that is executable by a processor to perform the method recited in claim
9 8.

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11 **14.** A method comprising:
12 receiving encoded video data, wherein the encoded video data identifies a
13 plurality of display regions associated with a particular display type;
14 identifying a display region to display on a video display device; and
15 decoding the encoded video content.

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17 **15.** A method as recited in claim 14 further comprising displaying the
18 decoded video content on the video display device.

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20 **16.** A method as recited in claim 15 wherein displaying the decoded
21 video content includes displaying the portion of the video content associated with
22 the identified display region.

1 **17.** A method as recited in claim 14 wherein each of the plurality of
2 display regions has an associated display region identifier.

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4 **18.** One or more computer-readable memories containing a computer
5 program that is executable by a processor to perform the method recited in claim
6 14.

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8 **19.** A method comprising:
9 identifying video data to be encoded;
10 identifying an active region of the video data to be encoded, wherein the
11 active region may be located anywhere within an image associated with the video
12 data;
13 identifying a plurality of display regions associated with the video data; and
14 encoding the video data such that the encoded video data includes an
15 indication of the active region and includes information regarding the plurality of
16 display regions.

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18 **20.** A method as recited in claim 19 further comprising storing the
19 encoded video data on a storage device.

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21 **21.** A method as recited in claim 19 further comprising communicating
22 the encoded video data to a video display device.

1 **22.** One or more computer-readable memories containing a computer
2 program that is executable by a processor to perform the method recited in claim
3 19.

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5 **23.** A method comprising:
6 receiving encoded video data, wherein the encoded video data identifies an
7 active region that may be located anywhere within an image defined by the video
8 data, and wherein the encoded video data identifies a plurality of display regions;
9 identifying the location of the active region;
10 identifying a display region to display on a video display device; and
11 decoding the encoded video content such that the intersection of the active
12 region and the display region is displayed.

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14 **24.** A method as recited in claim 23 further comprising displaying the
15 decoded video content on a video display device.

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17 **25.** One or more computer-readable memories containing a computer
18 program that is executable by a processor to perform the method recited in claim
19 23.

1 **26.** One or more computer-readable media having stored thereon a
2 computer program that, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one
3 or more processors to:

4 receive encoded video data, wherein the encoded video data identifies a
5 plurality of display regions and an active region;

6 identify a display region to display on a video display device;

7 determine the intersection of the identified display region and the active
8 region; and

9 decode the portion of the encoded video data resulting from the intersection
10 of the identified display region and the active region.

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12 **27.** One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 26
13 wherein the one or more processors further display the decoded video data on the
14 video display device.

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16 **28.** One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 26
17 wherein the plurality of display regions are associated with a particular type of
18 video display device.
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1 **29.** An apparatus comprising:
2 a video content source; and
3 an encoder coupled to receive video content from the video content source,
4 wherein the encoder identifies a plurality of display regions associated with the
5 video content, each of the display regions being associated with a particular
6 portion of an image defined by the video content, the encoder further encoding the
7 video content such that the encoded video content includes information regarding
8 the plurality of display regions.

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10 **30.** An apparatus as recited in claim 29 wherein the encoder further
11 identifies an active region of the video content.

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13 **31.** An apparatus as recited in claim 29 further comprising a storage
14 device coupled to the encoder, wherein the encoder stores the encoded video
15 content on the storage device.

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17 **32.** An apparatus as recited in claim 29 further comprising a transmitter
18 coupled to the encoder, wherein the transmitter transmits the encoded video
19 content to a destination device.

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21 **33.** An apparatus as recited in claim 29 wherein each display region has
22 an associated display region identifier.

1 **34.** An apparatus comprising:
2 an encoded video content source; and
3 a decoder coupled to receive encoded video content from the encoded video
4 content source, wherein the encoded video content identifies a plurality of display
5 regions associated with a particular type of video display device, the decoder to
6 identify a display region to display on a video display device, and the decoder to
7 decode the received encoded video content.

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9 **35.** An apparatus as recited in claim 34 wherein the decoder further
10 displays the decoded video content on the video display device.

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12 **36.** An apparatus as recited in claim 34 wherein the decoder further
13 identifies an active region of the decoded video content.

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15 **37.** An apparatus as recited in claim 36 wherein the decoder further
16 displays the portion of the decoded video content defined by the intersection of the
17 identified display region and the active region.